

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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72

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ADP-00 /010 W
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R 251400Z JUL 73
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9137
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1330

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL
SUBJECT: DUKE ELLINGTON'S VISIT TO EAST AFRICA

FOR CU/CP

USIA FOR IAA

HAVE JUST LEARNED OF DUKE ELLINGTON'S CU/CP SPONSORED CONCERTS FOR NOVEMBER IN ETHIOPIA AND KENYA AND WISH TO TAKE OCCASION REMIND DEPARTMENT THAT ZAMBIA AMONG THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE BEEN WHOLLY RPT WHOLLY IGNORED IN ITINERARIES OF US CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS OF SUCH IMPORTANCE, CALIBER AND MASS ATTRACTION. THIS IS CULTURALLY DEPRIVED AFRICAN COUNTRY OF CERTAIN SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO US WHERE WELL-KNOWN AND DEEPLY-APPRECIATED MUSICIAN LIKE ELLINGTON WOULD STIMULATE UNEQUALED EXCITEMENT AND EASILY FILL A STADIUM. OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE OTHER HIGH PRIORITY TARGETS AND RECOGNIZE THAT ELLINGTON NOVEMBER AFRICAN TOUR UNDOUBTEDLY NOW FIXED AND POSSIBLY WITHOUT FLEXIBILITY BUT IF THERE IS THE LEAST POSSIBLE CHANCE OF LAST-MINUTE INCLUSION WE WOULD MAKE FULL USE OF OPPORTUNITY AND TAKE ALL STEPS TO ASSURE COMPLETE SUCCESS. IN ANY EVENT, IT IS OUR VIEW THAT EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO SCHEDULE SUCH EVENT FOR ZAMBIA AT LEAST EVERY THREE YEARS.
WILKOWSKI

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